

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on our colleagues and pray for their speedy recovery, let me stop for a moment to pay tribute to a very special time in certain parts of the United States now being celebrated, really, across the land.

As I go home this weekend, we will be celebrating, commemorating Juneteenth. As President Lincoln gave the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, my constituency's ancestors did not hear of the freeing of the slaves until more than 2½ years later when Major Granger landed in Galveston to announce that the slaves were free and emancipated.

It is a serious time to honor those and the legacies of all of those who gave to this country, and we celebrate it with excitement and honor and dignity.

Today, or this weekend, I am excited that we will rededicate the Emancipation Park. We will name the street Emancipation Street. We are delighted that the OST/Almeda TIRZ donated \$33 million, along with foundations, to the city of Houston and community dollars.

We will acknowledge those who bought the land, some many, many years ago, and this restoration will give the opportunity, not only for those in the Third Ward, where I am privileged to represent, and all of those heroes and sheroes, but it will be a park that will welcome everyone, from not only around the community and the city, but it will welcome those from across the Nation.

Today, I introduce a Juneteenth resolution honoring Juneteenth with 51-plus sponsors. I am proud to acknowledge that, yes, we got the news late, but we celebrate freedom and we recognize that America is at her greatest because we are free, and freedom is cherished.

To all the fathers across the land, to my husband and relatives, and in memory of my late father, Ezra C. Jackson, I honor those who celebrate Father's Day as well on Sunday. Happy Father's Day.

□ 1415

SUPPORTING STATEHOOD OF PUERTO RICO

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege last Sunday to be an observer in Puerto Rico for the plebiscite and watch the people of Puerto Rico make the decision that they would like to be the 51st State.

I think it is time for this Congress to make the 3,400,000 American citizens part of the United States—in full gran-

deur, as every one of us have—and have a chance of making sure we can vote for everyone to be part of this.

I think it is time that America should stop colonizing. If I am not mistaken, this is the last Nation that has a colony. The great America of the United States has a colony, and I think it is time that we change that. Vote in Congress to make sure that we have the 51st State.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my friend who has been such a great leader in dealing with those who have associations with our country but are not States. I join with his remarks.

The Puerto Rican election that was held overwhelmingly voted for statehood as the option of governance they wanted to pursue. It is now, it seems to me, the responsibility of the United States Congress and the administration to recognize the overwhelming sentiment of the Puerto Rican people, expressed in a free and open election.

SUPPORTING STATEHOOD OF PUERTO RICO

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) for his leadership on this effort, a Representative on the most recent State.

I didn't want to take all of his time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Maryland, STENY HOYER, for the support. It is going to take a lot of effort. There is a lot of naysayers out there. But, again, I believe so strongly that we treat every American equally.

This is a civil rights issue, and they have voted 97 percent in favor of statehood. As you know, I led this battle with your help in 1997. We had a vote, and, with your side, I won by one vote. Puerto Rico and Alaska didn't go anywhere, but I ask every American to think about it.

Let's make this the last colony. Let's make this the 51st State.

PRAYING FOR VICTIMS OF CONGRESSIONAL BASEBALL TRAGEDY

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, 1 Corinthians 12:26 reads:

If one member suffers, all the members suffer together.

I stand today to show my support for my colleague, Congressman STEVE SCA-

LISE, his wife, and his family. We pray for their strength, their courage, and their faith as they deal with the unthinkable.

I pray for STEVE's speedy recovery. We know he is a fighter, and we pray he will be back soon fighting for the people of Louisiana's First District.

We offer prayers for Matt and his family, who was also injured during the shooting.

I rise today to remember the courageous Capitol Police officers who were injured; our heroes. If not for their bravery, more people could have been wounded and possibly killed. They risk their lives to protect us. The U.S. Capitol Police do this every day for us, for our staff, and for the public.

We stand together during this challenging time. When it happens to one of us, it happens to all of us.

COMMENDING CAPITOL POLICE FOR OUTSTANDING BRAVERY AND COURAGE

(Mr. RUTHERFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, "As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder. . . ."

Mr. Speaker, that is the first paragraph of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics that every law enforcement officer across this country swears to upon their becoming a law enforcement officer and accepting that badge.

I can tell you, yesterday, during the horrible event that took place, Officers Bailey and Griner with the Capitol Hill Police performed their duties above and beyond the expected.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to take this opportunity on behalf of law enforcement officers across America to thank them for doing their job with such outstanding bravery and courage.

I also want to let the Scalise family and the Mika family know that they are in our prayers. We pray for their speedy recovery.

God bless.

LOVE NOTE TO MADISON AND HARRISON SCALISE AND SPEEDY RECOVERY TO ALL

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to join with all of my colleagues in recognizing the heroism of David Bailey and Crystal Griner, wishing them a speedy recovery, and that they take time to recover emotionally as well.

I also want to extend a love note to the children of STEVE SCALISE. This is a love note to Madison and Harrison:

Father's Day is on Sunday, and I know for both of you it is going to be